

# May 2023

Denise DiNoto ~ District Governor Barb Wyllie ~ Toolbox Editor

Please send submissions to Barb at: <u>THETOOLBOX7190@GMAIL.COM</u>

Deadline: 20<sup>th</sup> of the month

#### From the Governor's Desk

I have been counting down to May for months and now it is finally here! So many Rotary events are taking place this month.

We start with our joint district conference in Clayton on May 5-7. Rotarians from across central New York will gather for fellowship, learning and celebration. This is an opportunity to meet members from clubs that will be part of the new CNY Rotary district.

Later this month there will be a training for members who may still be struggling with ClubRunner and MyRotary. This training was designed and developed based on feedback from club leaders who were having difficulty with the online platforms. While it is designed for club Secretaries and Presidents, I encourage anyone who is interested in club leadership to attend. You can find more details about the training below.

Unfortunately, I will not be at that training because I will be at the Rotary International Convention in Melbourne, Australia. Some of you know that I was an exchange student to Australia back in 1990. Going back for the RI Convention as the District Governor feels like I have come full circle in Rotary.

When I think back to that young exchange student who left New York to travel to the other side of the world, I know she never imagined being where I am today. That is the beauty of Rotary. Rotary offers opportunities to young people. Rotary builds peace and understanding between cultures. That doesn't happen because of the organization - it happens because of Rotarians like YOU!

You are responsible for a change in someone's life. You may never know about it, but the service you do has impacts beyond what you can imagine. As you continue to Imagine Rotary, be aware of the influence of your deeds and continue to be People of Action!

**DG** Denise

# Get to Know ClubRunner and MyRotary

May 25th 6:30-8:30 pm Glenville Senior Center

Who should come? Incoming club presidents and secretaries, or any member who wants to become a club leader.

~ ~ ~

# **CNY Rotary Update**

## **Nominations Now Open for CNY Rotary Leadership Positions**

The CNY Rotary Steering Committee has opened up nominations for several leadership roles on the future team and all qualified members of Districts 7150, 7170 and 7190 are encouraged to put their name in the hat. All submissions will go through the CNY Rotary Nominating committee, which is comprised of the three Immediate Past District Governors (who cast one vote in the case of a tie), the three District Governor Elects, three Assistant Governors, three immediate Past Club Presidents, three Past District Governors and the three sitting District Governors are non-voting members. You can see that there are three of each position, with one hailing from each of our current three districts.

## **CNY Rotary President (formerly known as District Governor)**

We are seeking nominations for the President of CNY Rotary for 2025-26 and this can happen one of three ways:

- 1 Your club can nominate you (with your approval)
- 2 You can go to your club to ask them to nominate you
- 3 The nominating committee can nominate someone directly (with their approval)

The basic qualifications for the role are that you have to have been an active member for at least seven years before your term begins and you have to have served a full year as club president. Details on the nominating process, a job description and answers to Frequently Asked Questions about being President, as well as the necessary forms are all available at <a href="www.cnyrotary.org">www.cnyrotary.org</a> under the Nominations tab. If you are considering this position, you can reach out to anyone on the Steering Committee to discuss if it would be a good fit for you. It is a serious leadership position and you should know what it will entail before stepping up. It will also be a seriously rewarding experience!

## **CNY Rotary Committee Chairs**

Several committee chair positions are also open to nominations during this time: Finance, Foundation, Youth Exchange, Public Image, Membership, Training, and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Each of these roles require some Rotary experience in that area of expertise and come with opportunities for additional training. For these positions, you can self-nominate or have someone nominate you. Please do not nominate people without their permission. The nominating committee will be going through all submissions for these roles, with the top candidates to be interviewed by the CNY Rotary Steering Committee later this month. Check out the Nominations tab at <a href="https://www.cnyrotary.org">www.cnyrotary.org</a> for job descriptions and the online form for nominations.

# **Nomination Deadline is May 15**

The deadline for clubs to nominate a CNY Rotary President or for someone to nominate themselves to a chair position will be Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. This is because the goal is to have all positions filled by the start of the new Rotary year. This gives the new volunteer leaders time to plan for attending training in the fall and to start work on building the rest of the committee. Each committee will now be bigger and that means many more opportunities to serve. If none of the roles described here sound like you, but you know you want to help at the district level, please keep following along because the call for you to get involved will be going out in the next phase.

Please be sure to <u>follow us on Facebook</u> and/or Instagram as we put out reminders and helpful information about the work being done to become CNY Rotary. Our goal is that people feel informed and have plenty of opportunities to engage, ask questions and get involved.

Rotarily Yours, DG Denise, DG Rocky and DG Jerry

The Toolbox:

Volume 233

## **DISTRICT EVENTS AT A GLANCE**

- NOW: Wheelbarrow of Booze by GoL p 3
- NOW: Book Orders being taken pp 5, 11
- May 5-7: Multi-District Conference, Thousand Islands, NY (Open to all) p 10
- May 14: Mother's Day
- May 20: Armed Forces Day
- May 25: ClubRunner/MyRotary Training p 1
- May 29: Memorial Day
- May 28-31: Rotary International Conference Melbourne, Australia (Open to all)
- June 21: District Exec Comm Meeting/ZOOM
- June 2023: District Changeover (Open to all) TBD
- Sept 14: Gift of Life Golf Tournament p 8

#### **CLUB EVENTS** AT A GLANCE

- NOW: Spring Flower Sale by Schenectady Rotary p 3
- NOW: Barrow of Beer by Schenectady Rotary p 6
- NOW: Help Girls in Malawi by Niskayuna Rotarian p6
- NOW: Food Drive by BHBL Rotary p 7
- NOW: Homemade Soap Sale by Rotterdam Sunrise Rotary p 7
- NOW: Buy a Water Tank by Lake George Rotary p 9
- May 6: Medium Brandon Russ by Sharon Springs Rotary p 4
- May 17: Youth Recognition Day by Albany Rotary p4
- May 18: Pints & Pies for Polio by BH-BL Rotary p 4
- June 1: Black/White Party by Twin Bridges pp 5, 7
- June 9: Golf Outing by Colonie-Guilderland p 5
- June 16-17: Variety Show by Amsterdam Rotary p 5
- June 17: Cornhole Social by Chestertown Rotary p 5
- June 26: Mission for Marcus golf event by Delmar Rotary p 6
- July 9: Cornhole for a Cause by Schenectady R. p 6
- August 7: Golf Classic by Glenville Rotary p 7

# Scotia Rotarian Called to a Higher Service

District 7190 bids a heartfelt farewell with prayers and very fond memories to

Rod (Roderick) Rowledge

We thank you for your 60+ years of service!

~ ~ ~

## Schenectady Rotary presents its annual

# Spring Flower Fundraiser



\$25 each Flowers or Herbs Pickup Dates May 12 and May 13











It's time for the Schenectady Rotary Annual Spring Flower Sale!

We are proud to partner with the Schenectady ARC Horticulture program to provide these beautiful flowers every year!

Funds raised support both the ARC Horticulture program as well as Schenectady Rotary's service to the community including:

- · High School Scholarships
- · Grants to local organizations
- Building a new community resource room at William C. Keane Elementary School

#### ORDER HERE (https://schenectadyrotary.rotary/190gives.org/flowers202

Flowers will be available for pick-up at Schenectady ARC's Maple Ridge Day Center located at 2999 Hamburg Street, Schenectady (Rotterdam)

Friday May 12 from 2p - 5p

Saturday May 13 from 9a - 12p

Do you want to make a difference in the world? Contact Schenectady Rotary (SchenectadyRotaryClub@gmail.com) for more information.



Thank you for your continued support!
We appreciate you!
Live drawing will be Friday May 26th at 6pm!
Follow us on Facebook



## **Sharon Springs Rotary** presents

# Medium Brandon Russ is BACK! Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> 6 pm \$38 Van Alstyne Homestead

42 Moyer St Canajoharie, NY

Brandon brings the stories of Funny You Should Say That to life! With a blend of stories and messages with audience members, prepare for an evening of being uplifted and connected.

As a developed demonstration Medium, he channels his inner comedian and is funny in the most unexpected ways. Because of the style of his new show, seating is LIMITED.

Come support the regional Rotary in the super fun shows! Brandon brings his unique style Mediumship with his wit and humor. You will leave uplifted and inspired!

#### For tickets:

https://spirittreeconnections.ticketspice.com/bookem-tour-23-van-alstyne-homestead-for-rotary-56



# Albany Rotary presents its 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Recognition Day May 17<sup>th</sup> 11:45 am

Come join us as we celebrate our 39th Annual Youth Recognition Day! This event honors youth from childcare agencies in the Capital Region.

Purchase your tickets via EventBrite on our Facebook or contact any Albany Rotary Club Rotarian. Looking forward to seeing you there.



## **Pints & Pies for Polio**

MAY 18 | 5-9PM



11 WASHINGTON STREET, BALLSTON SPA, NY

Please join us! \$1 from each pint and wood fired pizza goes towards ending polio throughout the world.



For over 30 years, Rotary and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative have reduced polio cases by 99.9% worldwide. If all eradication efforts stopped today, within 10 years polio could paralyze as many as 200,000 children a year. We won't stop until we end the disease for good.



# **FOLLOW THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE**

JOIN OUR FACEBOOK EVENT & INVITE FELLOW ROTARIANS

We'll post updates as event plans come together and you can connect with us there in real time!

Press 'control & click' on the link below: https://www.facebook.com/events/1158926078076499





Thursday, June 1, 2023 6:30 to 9:30 pm

Fairways of Halfmoon 17 Johnson Road, Halfmoon

Twin Bridges Rotary Fundraiser

# Black & White Party

- . Italian Buffet Dinner
- Dancing
- · Big, Big 50/50 Raffle
- · Wine Pull



Invite your family, friends, coworkers, significant other or gather your gal pals for a fun "Girls Night Out"!

Make your plans now!

Attire: your favorite black, white or black & white outfit!

#### \$60 per person

Please purchase tickets by May 15

All proceeds benefit Twin Bridges Rotary Foundation

buy tickets now at www.twinbridgesrotary.com

## Save the Date!

# Amsterdam Rotary presents its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Variety Show Back to the 80's

Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>
Amsterdam High School

Bert DeRose Auditorium Saratoga Avenue Amsterdam NY 12010

Advance Tickets on Sale Now \$10 Or become a Patron!

Contact Pete Rose 518-848-0401 or pjrose69@icloud.co

<u>m</u>







18th Annual Colonie-Guilderland Rotary Club
Par 3 - 18-Hole Golf Outing & Shootout
Friday, June 9th, 2023, Mill Road Acres, 30 Mill Rd, Latham, NY

Price Per Golfer: \$95 Includes Lunch and a Shared Cart
Tee/Hole Sponsorships Available for \$150
Tee Sponsor Plus 4 Golfers Package \$450

Register at cgrotary.org
Our Club's fund raising supports various programs, such as Albany

Ronald McDonald House, Guilderland Food Pantry, college scholarships for local students, Pure Water for the World, St. Jude Children's Hospital, and the Rotary Foundation.

Any team that has at least one Rotary member, will be entered into a drawing for a \$500 donation to a charity of their choice.

# **Rotary Cornhole Social**

Saturday, June 17, 11 AM to 4 PM
Chester Conservation Club-Knapp Hill Rd
Chestertown, NY

\$20 Adult \* \$5 Age 7-15

Free—Kids 6 and Under

3 Plays for Every Team Prizes for Winners \* 50/50 Raffle

Door Prizes \* Concession Stand

Live Music by The Soggy Derby Boys Practice & Registration starts 10 AM

Brought to you by the Chestertown Rotary Club
70+ Years of Service to our Community

Need info? Call or text 518-538-5605 Visit our FB page



Visit our FB page Rota
fb/ChestertownNYRotary





www.SchenectadyRotary.org

Tickets can be purchased via VENMO (@Lisarmj33) or by contacting the club at SchenectadyRotaryClub@gmail.com.

Schenectady

Rotary

## Save the Date!

## Cornhole for a Cause Fundraiser

by Lisa Jackson

Schenectady Rotary is partnering with the **Adirondack** Cornhole League for their 2nd Annual

# Cornhole for a Cause Tournament

They are excited to announce that this year's event will be hosted by their Event Sponsor, Rivers Casino and Resort, at Mohawk Harbor in Schenectady, on **Sunday**, July **9**, **2023**!







## Registration opens at 9:00am and bags will fly at 10:00 am.

Cornhole for a Cause features a day-long tournament for professionals and amateurs alike, as well as an assortment of drawings, auctions, and retail vendors.

Spectators are welcome! Come cheer on your friends as they play for the trophy and support the cause and have some fun!

Visit www.SchenectadyRotary.org for more information and registration.

For more information, contact: Lisa Jackson at 518-441-1225 or SchenectadyRotaryClub@gmail.com Follow us at

www.Facebook.com/SchenectadyRotary and watch for more information.

## In Partnership with: Schenectady Community Schools & Adirondack Cornhole **Hosted by Rivers Casino**

Proceeds will be used to fully furnish a community resource room at a William C. Keane **Elementary School** where families can access medical and mental health services, food, clothing, childcare, transportation, and enrichment programs.



## Save the Date!

Glenville Rotary presents its annual
Golf Classic
Monday, August 7<sup>th</sup>
Pinehaven Country Club

Come join us for fun and helping us help others!
Details to follow.

Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Rotary continues to provide an

"Operation Hunger"
Collection Box
at Gil's Garage

817 Saratoga Rd, Burnt Hills, NY to collect non-perishable food items.

**Rotterdam Sunrise Rotary** is selling **Homemade Soaps** 

A great gift idea for any holiday!

\$5/bar or \$20 for 5 bars in a decorative bag

Free shipping and/or delivery.

Please contact Michael Surin by text at 518-810-8338 or email msurin@nycap.rr.com.

Or join their weekly meetings at 7:15 am at the Bellevue Café in Schenectady, NY.

# **Help Empower Girls in Malawi**

Please, check out the link below. Share, and bookmark it to support our foundation:

https://smile.amazon.com/ch/26-3821877Viullage

Chituka Village Project update here:

https://youtu.be/m7qO2lsXdBo
Thank you very much.

Keni Mtalika Banda, Niskayuna Rotarian Founder/CEO Banda Bola Sports Foundation, Inc.

# **District 7190** continues to offer **Polio Survivor Louise Rourke's Inspirational Story:** *Called by the Water*

Learn how Louise's life-long experiences shaped her desire to pursue challenges others may have considered impossible. If you recall, Louise participated in a swim relay across the 32 miles of Lake George and raised over \$100,000 for the End Polio Campaign, including matching funds! Thank you for your support.

**\$20 per book / \$35 for a signed copy** *Your donation supports the Rotary Foundation Campaign to Eradicate Polio.* 

To purchase books, email Doug Ford at doug.ford@curtislumber.com

See flyer on page 16.

# **Black & White Party**

Twin Bridges is hosting a *Black & White Party!* That's right—get out your little black dress or your white pantsuit or anything that's black, white or black and white. It's all good for the *Black & White Party*.

This exciting event is set for Thursday, June 1 at 6:30 pm with music from DJ Raphel Peralta, dancing (plenty of space), food, drink, the Big, Big Twin Bridges Raffle, a Wine Pull and most importantly, lots of fun! An Italian buffet dinner is included. This is the second time Twin Bridges has held the *Black & White Party* and this one will be bigger and better than before.

Held at Fairways of Halfmoon, 17 Johnson Road, Halfmoon, the cost is \$60 per person and all proceeds will benefit the charitable efforts of the Twin Bridges Rotary Foundation. **Pre-registration is strongly encouraged--sign up now at twinbridgesrotary.com.** 



#### The Fairways of Halfmoon 17 Johnson Road Mechanicville, NY 12118

8:00—Registration with coffee & donuts.

9:00-Shotgun start, scramble format

- · Lunch & ice cream truck at the
- · Pick up your photo coffee cup & free drink ticket when you finish golfing.
- Dinner, awards, and raffles follow golfing.

#### Prizes for:

- Top 3 teams
- Putting
- Longest drive: Men, Ladies, Senior
- Closest to the pin (2)

Rotary District 7190 Gift of Life has contributed to many of the Global VTT's sponsored by Gift of Life International that have healed the hearts of over 46,000 children around the world. This is only possible because of your dedicated efforts & generosity. We thank you, appreciate you, and hope to see you at this year's tournament.



The young 9 years old Polina who was unable to receive critically-needed surgery in war-torn Ukraine has gotten the gift of life from doctors on Long Island.



Over 1.3 million children are born each year with a congenital heart defect and 93% are born in a country that cannot provide them treatment.

**SPONSORSHIPS** 

\*\* All registrants receive a T-shirt \*\*

For Sponsors \$250 and up, registration

forms with payment are due before 8/25 to

be named on the back of the T-shirts.

Sponsors and Advertisers will be contacted for additional details.

Your Name, Team, or Club

Half-page ad in program

Tee Sign on putting green

ee sign on course

**T-SHIRT SPONSOR** 

FLAG TEE

## The 25th Annual **Rotary District 7190** Gift of Life **Golf Tournament**

**Thursday** September 14th 2023

The Fairways of Halfmoon 17 Johnson Road Mechanicville, NY 12118



Rotary District 7190 Gift of Life Golf tournament proceeds will continue to heal little hearts around the world thanks to your generous support with the many raffle prizes & golfing.

#### **SPONSORSHIPS**

All sponsors will be recognized on our social media.

#### **HOST CLUB** \$1600

- Includes 4 golfers Dining room signage Reserved dinner table
- Full-page ad in program Tee Sign on putting green

#### PICTURE COFFEE CUP \$1500

- Your company logo + photo of golfer Each golfer receives his/her cup
- Reserved dinner table
- Half-page ad in program Tee Sign on putting green

#### DINNER SPONSOR

- Includes 4 golfers Reserved dinner table

#### LUNCH SPONSOR \$1200

- Includes 4 golfers Reserved dinner table
- Half-page ad in program Tee Sign on putting green

# ICE CREAM TRUCK \$900 Includes 2 golfers Signage at ice cream truck Reserved dinner table

- Half-page ad in program Tee Sign on putting green

#### **GOLF CART** \$750

- Includes 2 golfers Logo signage on all golf carts
- Reserved dinner table Half-page ad in program

# HAPPY HOUR Includes 2 golfers Reserved dinner table

- Half-page ad in program Tee Sign on putting green

# Half-page ad in program Tee Sign on putting green

Name: \*Address \*Phone # PLAYER 1: Email: PLAYER 2 Email: PLAYER 3: Fmail: PLAYER 4: Email:

PAYMENT							
		<b>^</b> 1	/ B		_	n I	_
	Ρ	Δ١	ľ	VI	-	N	

Amount: \$
circle one → Check - Visa - Mastercard - Ame
Name on Card:
Card #:
Expiration Date:
Sec. Code(3-4digits):

#### **TOURNAMENT FEES**

\$150 Single Golfer, by 8/1 \$160 Single Golfer, 8/1 to 9/14 \$600 Foursome by, 8/1 \$640 Foursome, 8/1 to 9/14

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "GIFT OF LIFE DISTRICT 7190"

> MAIL CHECK & COMPLETED REGISTRATION TO: Rotary Dist. #7190 GOL Attn: Richard Suker 215 Altamont Road Voorheesville, NY 12186

To pay the day of the event please contact Richard Suker: 518-858-8839 richs1247@gmail.com

You can also register online at ... https://birdease.com/22408 or by using the QR code below...



## Lake George Rotary presents

# **KEEP GIRLS SAFE** & IN SCHOOL

# SOKONI WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (SOWETE)

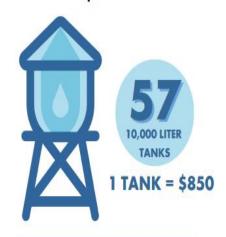


In Kenya, women and children walk an average of 10 MILES a day to get dirty water.

Young girls miss school to help their mothers get water.

# **PARTNERSHIPS**

Lake George Rotary, Rotary Club of Karura and a grant from Rotary International to provide:





Dorca, 2012



Dorca, 2021

- Sustainable gutter systems
- Connect to their home
- Provide clean, treated rain water
- Keep women safe + girls in school

https://bit.ly/WaterTankDonation

Send a check payable to: Lake George Rotary Foundation Kenya Water Project P.O. Box 321 Lake George, NY 12845



# DISTRICT CONFERENCE

May 5-7, 2023 | 1000 Islands Harbor Hotel, Clayton, New York

Discounted packages available for teens and children, so bring the whole family!

All three districts are invited to be part of a weekend filled with celebrations, connections and fun!

IMPORTANT: You must register for conference AND ALSO book a stay directly with the hotel

# **CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

## FRIDAY FUN: Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with Pesos for Polio

A portion of all drink sales go to End Polio, learn about our progress towards eradication, and enjoy seeing old friends and meeting new

# SATURDAY LEARNING: Get inspiration & explore the area

We'll spend the morning hearing from local organizations doing great work, with all three districts sharing some key projects from their areas. Then in the afternoon attendees will have free time to shop, taste and see the beautiful riverside community. In the evening, we will celebrate Youth Exchange and get the latest from CNY Rotary at dinner.

#### SUNDAY SEND-OFF: A time to reflect and look ahead

After breakfast we will remember Rotarians we have lost at the memorial service, following by a look ahead to the next conference, then say, "See you soon!"



# A Rotary Adventure of a Lifetime

by Scotia Rotarian Helen Penna

Let me begin by describing the predicament of the schoolgirls I met in Uganda. Imagine trying to deal with your menstruation when you have no supplies other than rags, leaves, mud, and perhaps a plastic bag. The first time the boys laugh at you because your dress is stained will probably be your last day in school. A March 2022 article in the Rotary magazine stated that many girls in Uganda drop out of school, marry early, have early pregnancies, all for the lack of a way to handle their menstruation. The Rotary magazine went on to say that some girls turn to prostitution, simply to afford menstrual products.

Our Rotary District 7190 found a solution. An inexpensive (\$5), long-lasting (5-yrs), washable menstrual kit. The MoonCatcher Kit was designed right here in Schenectady by Ellie von Wellsheim.

This March of 2023, I had the pleasure of traveling to Uganda with Ellie. This was my 3<sup>rd</sup> trip to Africa with her, but this time, we started work on the recently approved Rotary Global Grant GG1872625. Sometimes we Rotarians like to say our Rotary work is worth it if even one life is changed. This \$41,000 grant will provide MoonCatcher Kits to over 5,000 girls. In addition, 2 schools are being provided with sewing machines, instructions, and enough material to make 200 additional kits per school.



For a MoonCatcher Kit demonstration, watch the 6-minute video  $\frac{\text{https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gy8RzpxOtZw.}}{\text{To watch a MoonCatcher Kit being made, there is a 50-minute video at }\frac{\text{https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jaVt5hOxaf4}}{\text{https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jaVt5hOxaf4}}$ . For more information, visit MoonCatcher.org or text me, Helen Penna, at 518-858-1333.

Let me express my THANKS to my club, the Rotary Club of Scotia, and to all of you in District 7190. Without you, none of this would have happened.



Meeting with the Rotary Club of Namugongo, our Grant Host Partners.



The Grant includes sewing machines, tables, instructions, and fabric for schoolgirls to make an additional 400 MoonCatcher Kits.



Shopping for MoonCatcher fabrics in Uganda. All of the MoonCatcher Kits for our Rotary Grant are being made in Uganda, boosting the local economy.



Sewing machines and foot-treadles all assembled.

Continued on next page...



Ellie on Wellsheim, and the Grant's Trainer, Phoebe Nabwami, teaching the mandatory reproductive health training.



Feeling the Joy of handing out MoonCatcher Kits, 1 girl at a time.



Problem solved.



Here the schoolgirls are asking if they can touch my hair! YES.



#### A BONUS FOR THE SCHOOLS: OFFLINE DIGITAL K-12 EDUCATIONAL SOFTWARE

Although not part of the Grant, Ellie and I hand-carried seventy microSD memory cards, to be delivered to seventy schools. Each memory card is filled with eRotary's Knowledge Empowerment Software (KES). The memory cards are inserted into Android devices. The educational apps, books and videos are ideal for students like these who do not have access to the Internet. Here you see Ellie & Phoebe learning how to access the index of materials by grade or by subject. The memory cards even include the 50-minute video of Ellie making a MoonCatcher Kit. **More details and free download at www.erotary.club/kes.** For assistance, send an email to <a href="mailto:eRotaryNY@gmail.com">eRotaryNY@gmail.com</a>.

~ ~ ~

# Rotary 7190 Exchange Program

Rotary District 7190 has a strong and long tradition of participating in the Long-Term Exchange Student Program. This year is no exception. For those of you that will be attending the District Conference you will have the opportunity to meet the 6 In-Bounds for this year and the 4 Out-Bounds for next year. Our District has 1 Out-Bound Exchange Student this year.

Here is a listing of where they are from and located.

#### **Current In-Bounds 2022-2023**

Mei HashimotoJapanSalem Rotary ClubCeasar KihlbergSwedenGlens Falls Rotary ClubHeline LangueBelgiumMiddleburgh Rotary Club

Ines Roche Argentina Schenectady/Niskayuna Rotary Clubs (Schalmont)

Paz Villacreses Masson Ecuador Delmar Rotary Club (Bethlehem)

Film Yessin Thailand Lake George Rotary Club

#### **Current Out-Bounds 2022-2023**

Josephine Beltramo Italy Schenectady/Niskayuna Rotary Clubs
Future In-Bounds 2023-2024 Receiving 6 In-Bounds still to be determined

#### **Future Out-Bounds 2023-2024**

Alaina Jackson Netherlands Schenectady/Niskayuna Rotary Clubs
Diana Martocci Japan Middleburgh Rotary Club
Evelyn Saunders Sweden Delmar Rotary Club
David Viall Belgium Scotia/Salem Rotary Clubs
Samantha Gorey Japan Lake George Rotary Club

Recently the In-Bounds and Out-Bounds enjoyed a weekend orientation together at the YMCA Camp Chingachgook on Lake George. The In-Bounds will be with us until the end of June or early July. The Out-Bounds will be leaving for their year abroad in late August. A great group that is sure to have bright futures.

Rotary 7190 Youth Exchange Committee Suzanna Bernd – Chair Tom Rogers – Co-Chair Wes Andrew – Co-Chair



# Report of Ambulance Commissioning in Les Cayes, Haiti

by Brian Merriam, Chairman Schenectady Rotary Club International Committee

One of the great blessings of being a member of the Schenectady Rotary Club is that we recognize that while we do good works in our community, we have a broad definition of the word "community" to extend well outside of our city limits. Specifically, we received a plea for help from our Rotarian friend, Dr. Dorgu Petit-Homme of Les Cayes, Haiti following the devastating earthquake of August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021, that left 2,248 dead, 12,763 injured and 329 missing. Property damage was severe, estimated at \$1.5 billion. 3 days later Hurricane Grace struck causing mudslides and significant flooding. Our club responded by raising \$8,000 for food and water. Additionally, we located a used ambulance through the generous donation of the Community Emergency Corps of Ballston Spa. Another blessing was a donation of 500 pounds of medical supplies thanks to the Corp and Ballston Spa Rotary, along with a used ultrasound machine donated by Ellis Hospital. We then received a commitment from District Governor Bruce McConnelee on behalf of District 7190 to pay the shipping costs to get the ambulance to Haiti. Even though it shipped around the gang-controlled neighborhood and then driven 8 hours to the southern tip of Haiti to the Rotary-built clinic in Les Cayes.

The commissioning ceremony was attended by PDG 7020 Robert Leger (2017-18), past Camp-Perrin Rotary President Dorgu Petit-Homme and several local dignitaries. Schenectady Rotarian Brian Merriam attended remotely and spoke via cell phone and with the aid of a translator. All in attendance praised Schenectady Rotary and the tenacity of getting the ambulance to Les Cayes despite so many obstacles and hardships. This is the first ambulance provided to the community in recent years and is a vast improvement over the backs of pickup trucks and handcarts typically used to transport the sick and injured.

Rotary has again made a huge difference and has made the definition of "community" a blessing to hundreds whose lives may now be saved thanks to our timely response. Thank you to all who helped in this effort!





Ambulance left Schenectady Feb 6, 2022 loaded with medical supplies, headed for Port of Miami.



Local news report with PDG Robert Leger addressing the attendees.



Attendees at the commissioning presentation,

Camp Perrin Rotary Club. (Continued...)



Rotary-built clinic in Les Cayes: home for the donated ambulance.



Dr. Dorgu Petit Homme thanks Schenectady Rotary.





"Thank you, Rotary!"





Brian Merriam, Chairman Schenectady Rotary Club International Committee

The Toolbox:

Volume 233

May 2023

Rotary International District 7190

# ROTARY DISTRICT 7190 INVITES YOU TO DIVE INTO THIS REMARKABLE READ!

# Reserve Your Copy Today!

Coming soon to your local bookstore and amazon.com!



Photo By Gretta Hochsprung of The Post Star

Louise Beckerle Rourke is a polio survivor from six months of age. With her right leg paralyzed, she is a lifetime swimmer of Lake George. In 2018 Louise Rourke was joined by Bridget Simpson in a two-person relay to swim the length of Lake George. This epic 32-mile "Swim To End Polio" raised over \$120,000 for polio eradication. The dedication and determination of people like Louise motivates Rotarians and others today to not give up until global eradication of polio is complete.

#### Michael K. McGovern,

Rotary International PolioPlus Committee Chair

"Louise's book brings to life her remarkable journey and success in overcoming adversity. It is a moving and personal story of her deep appreciation of Lake George. This is truly an inspiration and pleasure to read."

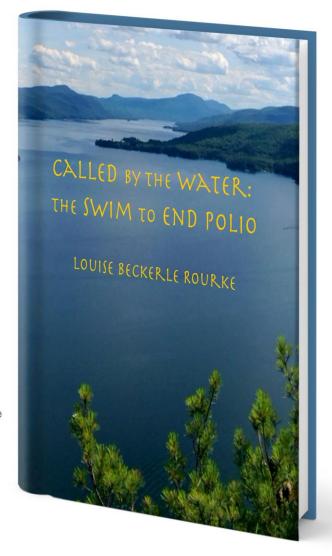
#### Kitty Rooney,

Lifelong Lake George resident, Lake George Historical Association Trustee

"This is a book about memories and mission. It is an inspiring, heart-warming, motivating memoir of the purposeful path that Louise Rourke took from being stricken with polio as a young child to become the Queen of the Queen of American Lakes. Jump in the water with Louise in this swimmingly touching story."

#### Dr. Joel Goodman,

Founder and CEO of The HUMOR Project, Inc. in Saratoga Springs, NY



The Toolbox:

Volume 233

May 2023

Rotary International District 7190